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- (b) a battery cell having an internal impedance disposed within said container, said cell having a positive electrode, a negative electrode, and a cell voltage measured across positive and negative electrodes of said cell;
 - (c) a controller adapted for use in primary and secondary batteries electrically coupled between said electrodes of said cell and said terminals of said container to form, from the cell voltage, an output voltage across the positive and negative terminals of the container; and
 - (d) a circuit responsive to a predetermined condition of said battery, the circuit begin operable to uncouple the output voltage of the controller from the terminals of the container upon detection of said predetermined conditions substantially determined by said internal impedance.
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(Amend claim 24 to read as follows:)

24. (Once Amended) A method for extending the useful life of a battery comprising the steps of:



providing a battery having a controller adapted for use in batteries including a primary battery and a secondary battery, said battery including:

- (i) a container having a positive terminal and a negative terminal; and
- (ii) a battery cell having an internal impedance disposed within said container; said cell having a positive electrode, a negative electrode, and a cell